

Message Text

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ACTION PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 SS-15 DHA-02 PM-04 INR-07

MCT-01 SSO-00 INRE-00 IO-14 PA-02 /061 W

-----150454Z 072071 /20

O 150407Z JUN 77

FM USDEL GRENADA

TO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USINFO IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0012

UNCLAS GRENADA 0012

S/PRS FOR TRATTNER

USIA FOR IPS/PL

USOAS DEL 2

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: OAS GJ

SUBJ: SECRETARY'S INITIAL INTERVENTION, VII OASGA, GRENADA, 6/14

1. FOLLOWING IS A TRANSCRIPTION OF HODDING CARTER'S BRIEFING TO THE PRESS AFTER THE INFORMAL DIALOGUES OF FLREKGN MINISTERS ON JUNE 14. (USDEL DISTRIBUTED THE TEXT OF THE SECRETARY'S INTERVENTION AT THAT SESSION.)

2. BEGIN TRANSCRIPTION.

TWO THINGS: FIRST, IN THE TEXT THAT YOU HAVE, AT THE POINT AT WHICH THE SECRETARY BREAKS SPEAKING OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND GOES INTO THE SECTION SUBHEADED OAS REFORM, THE FOLLIWING INSERTION, WHICH IS A DIRECT REFERENCE TO THE TWO SPEECHES WHICH PRECEDED HIS INTERVENTION, THE TEXT IS: FOLLOWING SPEECHES BY THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF ARGENTINA AND CHILE AS FOLLOWS: "I AM PLEASED TO
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NOTE THE ATTENTION PAID TO THE ISSUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS BY MY ESTEEMED COLLEAGUES IN STATEMENTS MADE HERE TODAY. UNIVERSAL RECOGNITION OF THE PROBLEM IS LAUDABLE, AND I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE EQUALLY LAUDABLE IF WE ALL AGREED TO DO WHAT WE CAN TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION, INDIVIDUALLY AND COLLECTIVELY."

THERE WAS A MINOR CHANGE IN THE OPENING TWO SENTENCES OF THE STATEMENT. IT WAS NOT RELEVANT TO ANYTHING, AND IT MERELY SAYS THAT I WILL SPEAK OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND OTHER MATTERS RATHER THAN THE OPENING. THE TWO OPENING REMARKS WERE MADE FIRST BY THE MINISTER OF ARGENTINA. I CANNOT QUOTE IT DIRECTLY FOR VARIOUS REASONS, BUT I CAN GIVE A NOTION. IT WAS BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT ALL ISSUES THAT ARE TO BE DISCUSSED HERE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A WHOLE IN THE CONTEXT THAT THE QUESTION OF TERRORISM IS BASIC TO THE QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. MANY GOVERNMENTS, HE NOTED, (NONE OF THIS IS DIRECT QUOTATION) WANT TO INSTITUTE MEASURES TO PROTECT THEIR CITIZENS FROM CRIMINALS BENT ON DESTROYING HARMONY. THE BASIC QUESTION IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS ARENA IS TERRORISM. THE CHILEAN FOREIGN MINISTER INDICATED HIS AGREEMENT THAT HUMAN RIGHTS WAS A UNIVERSALLY SHARED PRINCIPLE, AND THAT AS THE BIBLE HAS ENJOINED US NO ONE SHOULD FEEL THAT HE CAN CAST THE FIRST STONE. HE NOTED THAT THE UNITED STATES HAD EXPOSED ITS OWN WEAKNESSES AND HAD TAKEN CONSTRUCTIVE MEASURES TO DEAL WITH ITS OWN SHORTCOMINGS. BUT HE SAID ALSO THAT THERE WERE TWO ESSENTIAL POINTS THAT HAD TO BE CONSIDERED. FIRST IS THERE SHOULD BE ACCURATE INFORMATION ON THE AFFAIRS OF EACH NATION. HE NOTED WITH NOT TOO MUCH COMMENT A REMARK ATTRIBUTED TO BENJAMIN BRADLEE, THE EDITOR OF THE WASHINGTON POST, THAT WHAT THEY PRINT IS NOT THE TRUTH. IT IS FACTS, AND FACTS ARE GIVEN TO THEM BY MANY SOURCES. IN SHORT, WHAT MR. BRADLEE IS ALLEGED

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TO HAVE SAID SAID AND WHAT WE PRINT IS OFTEN LIES. HE USED AN EXAMPLE: THE FACT THAT MANY TIMES THE FULL SITUATION IN MANY COUNTRIES IS NOT REPORTED, THE DENIALS ARE NOT REPORTED, AND SO FORTH AND SO FORTH. SECOND, THAT SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITY SPONSORED BY OUTSIDE FORCES HAS BRED THE NEED FOR ACTION. HE READ EXTENSIVELY FROM A REPORT OF THE INTER-AMERICAN DEFENSE BOARD OF 1976. WHICH ITEMIZED THE THREAT TO THE HEMISPHERE AS BEING A COMMUNIST EXTERNAL THREAT. HE NOTED THAT IN THE FACE OF THAT REPORT, NONETHELESS, THE UNITED STATES SUSPENDS MILITARY AID TO THOSE RESISTING THE AGGRESSION WHICH THIS REPORT, CHAIRED BY AN AMERICAN, SAID WAS A REAL THREAT TO THE HEMISPHERE. THAT IS FROM THE REPORT AS I UNDERSTOOD IT. HE QUESTIONED WHY THE UNITED STATES DID NOT PROTEST AS VIGOROUSLY THE ASSASSINATION OF AMBASSADORS AS IT DID THE SUPPOSED VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN SOME COUNTRIES AND CALLED ON THE UNITED STATES TO ATTACK THE CAUSE OF TERRORISM TO HAMPER MARXIST IDEOLOGICAL INTERVENTION. THIS, HE

SAID, WOULD BE THE BEST ASSISTANCE TO HUMAN RIGHTS THE
UNITED STATES COULD OFFER. HE QUOTED FROM SOMEONE
WHO I MISSED THAT TRYING TO WIN OVER OUR ENEMIES IS
THE BEST WAY TO DESTROY FRIENDS. THOSE WERE THE TWO
PRECEEDING. ANY QUESTIONS? WHAT WAS THE SECTION
TAKEN OUT OF THE SPEECH? THE SECTION TAKEN OUT WAS
SIMPLY DELAYED FOR BRINGING UP AGAIN AT A LATER
POINT IN THE COFERENCE.
MCGEE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GRENAD00012
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770213-0113
Format: TEL
From: GRENADA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770655/aaaabwgg.tel
Line Count: 125
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9127777c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION PRS
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2146694
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY'S INITIAL INTERVENTION, VII OASGA, GRENADA, 6/14
TAGS: OCON, PFOR, SHUM, GJ, XM, US, OAS
To: USIA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9127777c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009